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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO. [REDACTED]

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COUNTRY Austria/Czechoslovakia

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DATE DISTR. [REDACTED]

SUBJECT Developments on the Austro-Czech Border

NO. OF PAGES [REDACTED]

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CIRCULATENO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.1. Mitterretzbach (16° 01' East, 48° 48' North), Lower Austria

- a. On 17 April 1951 the Gendarmerie posts at Hardegg (15° 54' East, 48° 52' North), Nieder Fladnitz (15° 55' East, 48° 48' North) and Mitterretzbach were inspected by Major Schiller of the Soviet Kommandatura in Hollabrunn. Schiller expressed particular interest in fences and buildings located on the border, and in the Thaya River bridges.
- b. On 2 May 1951 two low-flying Czech aircraft were sighted near Mitterretzbach. The planes, believed to be on a reconnaissance flight, flew off in the direction of Satov (16° 03' East, 48° 48' North), Czechoslovakia. (1)

2. Weitersfeld (15° 49' East, 48° 47' North), Lower Austria

On 4 May 1951 the Soviet City Kommandant of Krems inspected the Austro-Czech border in the vicinity of Weitersfeld. He was accompanied by the Chief of the Weitersfeld Gendarmerie.

3. Waldkirchen a.d. Thaya (15° 21' East, 48° 56' North), Lower Austria

On 30 April 1951 the Soviet City Kommandant of Waldhofen a.d. Thaya, accompanied by two other officers and an interpreter, inspected the Gendarmerie posts at Litschau (15° 03' East, 48° 57' North), Kautzen (15° 14' East, 48° 56' North) and Waldkirchen a.d. Thaya. The Soviets inquired specifically as to the weapons assigned to these posts, and the weapons carried by the gendarmes in this area.

4. During the last week in May 1951, two Soviet officers inspected the Austro-Czech border near Gruend-Steinbock. (2)

5. Waldhofen a.d. Thaya (15° 17' East, 48° 49' North), Lower Austria

The Soviet City Kommandant of Waldhofen a.d. Thaya has ordered that no vehicles in the district under his jurisdiction be painted or repaired without prior permission from the Kommandatura. Austrian officials believe that this order is related to Soviet attempts to control illegal border-crossing activities.

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6. Schoenegg (14° 12' East, 48° 35' North), Upper Austria

On 26 April 1951 the Czechs began ditch work on the 500 - 600 meter Czech portion of the road between St. Stefan am Walde (14° 16' East, 48° 34' North) and Schoenegg. The road is now closed to Austrians, and direct traffic has ceased between Schoenegg and St. Stefan am Walde.

7. Koesslersdorf (14° 59' East, 48° 54' North), Czechoslovakia

The road block on the route between Koesslersdorf and Schoenau (15° 03' East, 48° 56' North), Lower Austria, was extended during the first week of June, 1951. An iron barrier, reinforced with concrete, was erected on this road in 1937. (3) The Czechs have now dug a ditch across the road in front of the block, at the same time piling up a mound of earth between the ditch and the Austrian border. The ditch is one meter deep and two meters wide; it extends from the south side of the road approximately 35 meters to the Reiss Bach and from the north side of the road approximately 25 meters to the Torfstich. (4)

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- (1) [REDACTED] Comment: The planes are believed to have come from the Czech airfield at Gnadersdorf (15° 59' East, 48° 47' North).

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- (2) [REDACTED] Comment: Possibly Gmuend (15° East, 48° 46' North) and Steinbach 15° 01' East, 48° 49' North), in Lower Austria.

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- (3) [REDACTED] Comment: Source states that the barrier is located "approximately 50 meters from the Austrian border station at Galthof and 350 meters west of Height 483". This description should probably read "50 meters from Height 483 and 350 meters west of Galthof", since Height 483 lies west of Galthof.

- (4) [REDACTED] Comment: The Torfstich is not shown on available maps.

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